Provision of fare concessions to students and senior citizens

5238. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines provides some fare concessions to students and senior citizens aged more than sixty years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Airlines also provides free journey to children upto five years of age;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Air-India also provides similar concessions to passengers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines offers 50% discount on the fare on all its domestic services in Economy Class to bonafide students between the age of twelve and twenty six years, who are enrolled in a full time course of atleast one academic year duration at a recognised educational establishment. On International sectors, 25% to 30% discount is offered on the fare in Economy Class between an airport in the country of residence and an airport in the country where the educational establishment is situated. In case of senior citizens, 50% discount on normal rupee adult fare is applicable to resident citizens of India who have attained the age of 65 years on the date of travel.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Air India provides 30% concession to students on its routes to UK, Europe, Middle East & Africa, and 25% on other Air India routes except to/ from USA and Canada on which routes no concession is provided. Air India does not provide concession to senior citizens.

Expansion of ITDC Hotels in the country

5239. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ITDC has plan to spend crores or rupees for hotel expansion in the country;

(b) if so, the details, thereof;

(c) the names of ITDC hotels in the country that suffered losses during the last three years and the amount of losses suffered; and

(d) the reasons for their losses and how the ITDC is going to generate funds for the expansion of hotels in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) ITDC's Annual Plan for 1995-96 does not envisage any specific plan for expansion of its existing hotels in the country. However, ITDC has made a plan outlay of Rs. 14.75 crores for renovation/ upgradation of its existing hotels during 1995-96.

(c) The requisite information is given in Statement.

(d) The losses of certain hotels in the Tourist-circuits is attributed mainly to adverse tourism conditions such as natural calamities, plague, malaria and surplus hotel accommodation in those stations. Performance of ITDC hotels has improved lately. The Corporation therefore will meet plan fund requirements for 1995-96 from internal accruals and no budgetary support is sought for the year.